

THE DILEMMA OF DESCRIBING GOD

We cannot explain *God, the Creator* to the masses due to our own limitations. Also, in the absence of a reference (comparable example) in the entire Universe how should we describe *God, the Creator*, to the masses?

Different religions describe God differently based on their doctrine and their scriptures. Since our description of God is different compared to that of other religions, the image of our God is different too. But where did the Christians get the image of their God? From the Bible, of course. And the Hindus? Same, from their scriptures. To solve the puzzle of different descriptions of God among the Hindus, Jews, Christians, and Muslims, we need to conduct extensive research of their scriptures: Vedas, Upanishads, and Bhagavad Gita of the Hindus, the Jewish Bible, the Holy Bible of the Christians, and the Holy Quran of the Muslims. Deep inside these scriptures, we can find both the seeds of religious conflict and, hopefully, the key to resolving these conflicts. Religious scholars and theologians have pored over these voluminous scriptures for centuries. Some spent their whole life trying to find the meaning of just a few verses. Despite their toil and struggle, we are still squabbling and quarreling, unable to reach any consensus for *an appropriate description of the God of humankind*. Can this puzzle be solved?

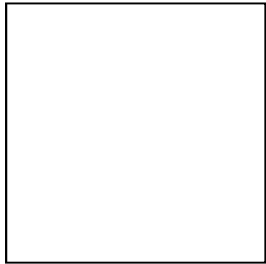
Yes, it can be solved. But before we dive deeper into the vast ocean of scriptural debate, let us consider just one example to understand the challenge we face in resolving religious conflicts.

God of Christians



Jesus Christ

God of Jews, Muslims & Sikhs



Jews, Muslims, and Sikhs
don't assign any image to God.

Can you visualize the deep divide in the perception of God between the Christians on the one hand and the Jews, Muslims, and Sikhs on the other? It gets even more challenging with the Hindus. The image of the God of the Christians is not the same as the image(s) of the God(s) of the Hindus. If you extend the comparison to other religions, it gets even more confusing.